

Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-25

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FM AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7268

UNCLAS HELSINKI 0530

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SWELFI

REF: STATE 044783

1. EMBASSY MEDICAL ADVISER STATES THAT APPROXIMATELY 200 CASES OF MENINGOCOCCAL MENINGITIS, TYPE A WERE REPORTED IN FINLAND THIS WINTER WITH APPROXIMATELY A TEN PERCENT MORTALITY RATE. THE NUMBER OF CASES ACTUALLY HOSPITALIZED IS NOT KNOWN AS APPROXIMATELY FIFTY PERCENT OF THE PATIENTS WERE MILITARY PERSONNEL WHO WERE NOT ADMITTED TO MAJOR HOSPITALS. MOST OF THE CASES WERE IN THE TURKU AREA ON THE WEST COAST OF FINLAND. THERE WERE SEVERAL CASES REPORTED FROM THE LAPPEENRANTA AREA WHICH IS IN SOUTH EASTERN FINLAND. VERY FEW CARRIERS WERE FOUND AND THEN ONLY AMONG CLOSE FAMILY MEMBERS OR MILITARY PERSONNEL QUARTERED IN THE SAME ROOM. SPECIFIC DATA ON TREATMENT IS NOT READILY AVAILABLE. IT HAS BEEN REPORTED HOWEVER THAT THERE WAS RESISTANCY TO SULFA MEDICATION.

2. IT HAS BEEN REPORTED FURTHER THAT DR. HARRY SELDMAN, WHO INVENTED THE DYE TEST FOR TOXOPLASMOSIS HAS RECEIVED A SPECIMEN FROM FINLAND.
KREHBIEL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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